The new block, which will soon be ready, is of improved design. The windows face north and south and the records will be better protected from the heat of morning and evening sun. Better ventilation is provided by exhaust fans and geared windows.

Damaged records are systematically mended. A special section consisting of one mending assistant specially trained at the Imperial Record Office, Calcutta, and a staff of attenders also specially trained, are attending to this work.

The older records are being typed and printed, and this reduces the necessity for handling the old volumes.

(b) The question of making better provision for students is under the consideration of Government. They do not think it necessary to appoint a committee for the purpose.

Civil Justice

Levy of special fee for urgent certified copies in civil courts.

* 620 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether Government have taken any steps since October 1927 to enable applicants to obtain certified copies of civil court proceedings within one day by levying a special fee as in the Registration offices?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government have at any time considered this matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes, Sir. The Government consulted the High Court and the High Court stated that the proposal was both undesirable and impracticable."

Forests

Sale of agricultural implements by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool East.

* 621 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: With reference to the notification of sale of agricultural implements by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool East, at page 46 of the Forest Supplement to the *Kurnool District Gazette*, dated 3rd August 1928, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the contractors who work the coupes mentioned in paragraph 2 of the notification are required by the contract—

(i) to earmark any species or numbers of trees for the manufacture of agricultural implements;

(ii) to maintain a register of sales of agricultural implements;

(iii) to sell these agricultural implements to the ryots of the districts in preference to others; and

(iv) to issue receipts for the amounts they receive for sale of agricultural implements at stated rates?

A.—(i) No.

(ii) No. But a register of permits showing the description of produce sold with the amount realized is maintained by contractors.

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(iii) Yes, under one of the conditions of the agreement, the contractor is required to comply with the demand of the public for fuel for genuine domestic consumption or for timber for the local industrial works of the villages, at the departmental rates.

(iv) Receipts are issued by the contractors in the form of permits to the purchasers.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"In view of the fact that the contractors are not keeping on to the contract, may I know whether the Government are prepared to ask for a register of sales of agricultural implements and see that some species are earmarked for the manufacture of agricultural implements?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I shall consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"What are the steps the Government have taken to see that the timber made available for the manufacture of agricultural implements is really fit for the purpose?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"So far as I know there has been no complaint. If my hon. Friend asserts that there is a complaint I shall be glad to make enquiries."

Notification of sale of agricultural implements by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool.

*622 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have perused the notification of sale of agricultural implements by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool East, at page 46 of the Forest Supplement to the *Kurnool District Gazette*, dated 3rd August 1928;

(b) whether this notification was published in consultation with the Collector of Kurnool; and

(c) if so, whether he approved of such a notification?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) No. But the Government understand that the Collector had approved of the essentials of this notification in April 1926 and that since then a notification on the approved lines has been issued each year. The Conservator has been instructed to see that such notifications are published in future with the previous approval of the Collector in each case.

Enquiry into the death of Mr. Ponnayya.

*623 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: With reference to the answers given to my question No. 1818 on the 29th March 1928, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 villagers of the village of Thirumulla were summoned for enquiry at Thirumulla Range office on the 18th November 1926 held by the Assistant Conservator of Forests touching the matter of the death of Ponnayya, the Ranger; and if they have no information, whether they will enquire into the matter;